

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A bone nail comprising a nose portion and an opposing portion coupled via a tie rod, the bone nail including at least ~~one~~ two expansion portions ~~capable of being longitudinally spaced between the nose portion and the opposing portion so as to~~ be positionable on either side of a bone fracture during use, wherein each expansion portion is configured to be radially expanded under a compressive force applied by thea nose portion and ~~thea~~ opposing portion coupled via ~~thea~~ tie rod, ~~the at least one~~ each expansion portion having at least one portion, at least one characteristic of which is selected to be different to a corresponding at least one characteristic of at least one other portion of the expansion portion.
2. (Previously Presented) A bone nail according to claim 1, wherein the at least one characteristic comprises a thickness and/or width of the at least one portion and the at least one other portion.
3. (Currently Amended) A bone nail according to claim 1, wherein the expansion portions comprises at least one elongate portion having a pair of elongate slots on either side thereof.
4. (Previously Presented) A bone nail according to claim 1, wherein the at least one portion comprises a first end of the at least one elongate portion and a second end of at least one elongate portion.

5. (Previously Presented) A bone nail according to claim 4, wherein the at least one other portion comprises a mid portion of the elongate portion forming a remainder of the elongate portion.

6. (Previously Presented) A bone nail according to claim 4, wherein the first end and/or second end of the elongate portion is thinner or thicker and/or narrower or broader than an adjacent portion of the at least one elongate portion.

7. (Previously Presented) A bone nail according to claim 1, wherein the at least one portion further comprises a first end of at least one slot and a second end of at least one slot.

8. (Previously Presented) A bone nail according to claim 7, wherein the at least one other portion comprises a mid portion of the slot forming a remainder of the slot.

9. (Previously Presented) A bone nail according to claim 1, wherein the first end and/or the second end of at least one slot is broader than an adjacent portion of the at least one slot.

10. (Currently Amended) A bone nail comprising a nose portion and an opposing portion coupled via a tie rod, the bone nail including at least one two expansion portions capable of being longitudinally spaced between the nose portion and the opposing portion so as to be positionable on either side of a bone fracture during use, wherein each expansion portion is configured to be radially expanded under a compressive force applied by thea

nose portion and ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> opposing portion coupled via ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> tie rod, wherein ~~the~~<sup>at least</sup> ~~one~~<sup>each</sup> expansion portion is shaped to elastically bow outwards when ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> compressive force is applied axially to the expansion portion.

11. (Currently Amended) A bone nail adapted to be received within a bone cavity and comprising a nose portion and an opposing portion coupled via a tie rod, the device bone nail including at least ~~one~~<sup>two</sup> expansion portions longitudinally spaced between the nose portion and the opposing portion so as to be positionable on either side of a bone fracture during use, wherein each expansion portion is configured to ~~be capable of being~~ radially expanded under a compressive force applied by ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> nose portion and ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> opposing portion coupled via ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> tie rod, wherein ~~the~~<sup>at least one of the</sup> expansion portions comprises at least one longitudinal portion fixed at either end to means which engage a compression coupling, wherein a profile of the at least one longitudinal portion is narrowed at one or both ends of the at least one longitudinal portion.

12. (Previously Presented) A bone nail according to claim 11, wherein a plurality of longitudinal portions substantially equidistant spaced around a circumference of the expansion portion are provided.

13. (Previously Presented) A bone nail according to claim 11, wherein the longitudinal portion has a stepped or curved profile.

14. (Previously Presented) A bone nail according to claim 11, wherein the outer surface of the longitudinal portion is serrated to provide grip with the inner surface of a bone.

15. (Currently Amended) A bone nail comprising a nose portion and an opposing portion coupled via a tie rod, the bone nail including at least ~~one~~ two expansion portions capable of being longitudinally spaced between the nose portion and the opposing portion so as to be positionable on either side of a bone fracture during use, wherein each expansion portion is configured to be radially expanded under a compressive force applied by the nose portion and the opposing portion coupled via the tie rod, wherein ~~the at least one~~ each expansion portion includes at least one slot, the slot having at least one portion having a width greater than a width of a remainder of the at least one slot.

16. (Previously Presented) A bone nail according to claim 15, wherein at least one portion and the remainder of the slot are longitudinally displaced.

17. (Previously Presented) A bone nail according to claim 15, wherein each expansion portion includes a plurality of elongate slots.

18. (Previously Presented) A bone nail according to claim 15, wherein each slot includes first and second wider portions at first and second ends of the slot.

19. (Previously Presented) A bone nail according to claim 18, wherein the remainder of the slot is substantially of a uniform width.

20-26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) A bone nail according to claim 1, wherein the expansion portions ~~are~~<sup>is</sup> made of a stiffly resilient plastics material, titanium or titanium alloy.

28. (Canceled)